

Claims:

1. A method for displaying search results comprising:
providing a web-accessible database containing content searchable by a networked user, said database including a plurality of search functions available to the user;
producing a set of results responsive to one of said search functions being invoked by the user; and
displaying said results to the user arranged in categories responsive to said invoked search function.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying categories similar to the keyword used for the search.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein a database search routine is invoked corresponding to the particular search function chosen by the user.
4. The method of claim 3, wherein said search function comprises a search by example.
5. The method of claim 3, wherein said search function comprises a search by keyword.

6. The method of claim 3, wherein said search function comprises a search by category.

7. The method of claim 2, further including the act of displaying non-textual information associated with said results.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein said non-textual information includes graphics.

9. An apparatus for displaying search results comprising:
a networked computer hosting a web-accessible database containing content searchable by a networked user, said computer configured to:
provide a plurality of search functions to the user;
produce a set of results responsive to one of said search functions being invoked by the user; and
display said results to the user arranged in categories responsive to said invoked search function.

10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein said computer is further configured to display categories similar to the keyword used for the search.

11. The apparatus of claim 10 wherein a database search routine is invoked corresponding to the particular search function chosen by the user.

12. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said search function comprises a search by example.

13. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said search function comprises a search by keyword.

14. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said search function comprises a search by category.

15. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein said computer is further configured to display non-textual information associated with said results.

16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein said non-textual information includes graphics.

17. An apparatus for displaying search results comprising:
means for providing web-accessible database containing content searchable by a networked user;
means for providing a plurality of search functions to the user;

means for produce a set of results responsive to one of said search functions being invoked by the user; and

means for display said results to the user arranged in categories responsive to said invoked search function.

18. The apparatus of claim 17, further comprising means for displaying categories similar to the keyword used for the search.

19. The apparatus of claim 18 wherein a database search routine is invoked corresponding to the particular search function chosen by the user.

20. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein said search function comprises a search by example.

21. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein said search function comprises a search by keyword.

22. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein said search function comprises a search by category.

23. The apparatus of claim 17, further comprising means for displaying non-textual information associated with said results.

24. The apparatus of claim 23, wherein said non-textual information includes graphics.